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ALL AGES
MANGA
RECORD OF
LODOSS WAR
The Grey Witch
Story by Ryo Mizuno • Art by Yoshihiko Ochi
DIRECT SALES
01611

RECORD OF LODOSS WAR - THE GREY WITCH
CAST OF CHARACTERS AND SUMMARY

TO THE SOUTH OF THE CONTINENT OF ALECRAST LAY AN ISLAND KNOWN AS THE ACCURSED ISLAND OF LODOSS. FROM THE VILLAGE OF ZAXON, IN THE KINGDOM OF ALLANIA IN NORTHWESTERN LODOSS, THE RIGHTEOUS YOUNG FIGHTER, PARN; HIS CHILDHOOD FRIEND, ETOH THE PRIEST; THE WARRIOR DWARF, GHIM; AND THE SORCERER, SLAYN, SET OUT ON A JOURNEY. IN THE TOWN OF ALLAN THEY JOINED UP WITH DEEDLIT, A SPRITE OF THE HIGH ELVES, AND WOODCHUCK THE THIEF. AFTER PREVENTING THE ASSASSINATION OF THE KING OF ALLANIA, THEY HEADED FOR THE KINGDOM OF VALIS. ON THE WAY THEY LEARNED OF THE KIDNAPPING OF THE PRINCESS OF VALIS, BY KARLA THE WITCH, AND SET OUT TO RESCUE HER. WITH THE AID OF SOME HOLY KNIGHTS THEY WERE ABLE TO OVERCOME KARLA'S FIERCE SORCERY AND RESCUE THE PRINCESS.

WOODCHUCK
A THIEF. SPENT 20 YEARS IN PRISON FOR A MINOR OFFENSE.

SLAYN
A SORCERER FROM THE SCHOOL OF PHILOSOPHY IN ALLAN SEARCHING FOR HIS STAR.

GHIM
A CRAFTSMAN FROM A NORTHERN DWARF TRIBE. HE HAS CONFIDENCE IN HIS STRENGTH AS A WARIOR.

ETOH
A PRIEST SERVING PHARIS, THE SUPREME GOD. QUIET, BUT STRONG WILLED.

DEEDLIT
A FIGHTER AND SPRITE FOR THE HIGH ELVES. THE YOUNGEST IN HER CLAN AT 160 YEARS OLD.

PARN
THE HERO OF THIS STORY ON AN ASCETIC JOURNEY. HIS SWORD AND ARMOR WERE HANDED DOWN FROM HIS FATHER.

RECORD OF LODOSS WAR

The Grey Witch

Story by Ryo Mizuno

Ryo Mizuno is the world renowned creator of the entire **Record of the Lodoss War** universe. The story you now hold in your hands, **The Grey Witch** is the first **Lodoss War** story Mr. Mizuno ever wrote. Looking back at all his works, he feels that **The Grey Witch** is the most primitive, from his standpoint as its writer. For this reason, Mr. Mizuno says that he often gets embarrassed after re-reading **The Grey Witch**. However, he loves Mr. Ochi's beautiful illustrations and is extremely satisfied with the way his characters were brought to life in this comic book.

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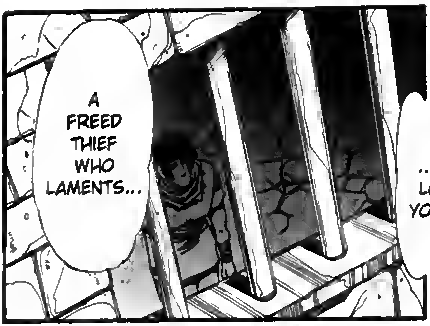
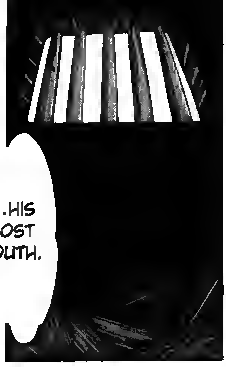
AS THE GREY CLOUDS APPROACH, WITH THEM COMES THE INEVITABILITY OF WAR.
A FORMER HERO, DARK SWORD IN HAND...
...EMERGES FROM MARMO IN AN ATTEMPT TO BECOME SUPREME RULER OF THE LAND ONCE CURSED BY KARDIS.
GRASPING HIS SWORD, THE FORMER HERO RISES...
IN ORDER TO BRING PEACE, IF ONLY BRIEFLY, TO THE ACCURSED LAND.

A RIGHTEOUS YOUNG MAN...
IN SEARCH OF THE COURAGE HIS MOTHER SO BELIEVED IN, SET FORTH ON A JOURNEY JOINED BY...
HIS CHILDHOOD FRIEND, THE PRIEST, SPREADING THE NEWS OF SALVATION...
A SORCERER, IN SEARCH OF HIS STAR...
A DWARF, IN SEARCH OF AN INNOCENT GIRL...
A YOUNG ELF, WHO LEFT THE FOREST OF LIGHT...
IN SEARCH OF THE LIGHT OF LIFE.

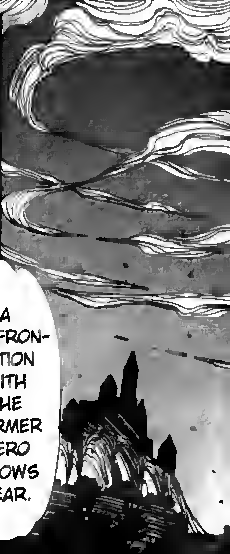

A FREED THIEF WHO LAMENTS...


...HIS LOST YOUTH.

pluck

LIKE PERSISTENT THOUGHTS...

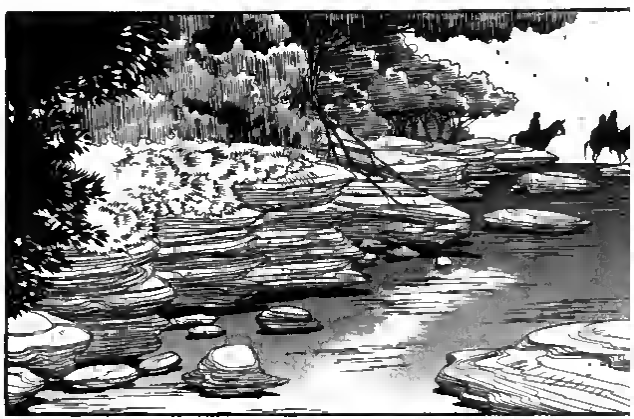
...THE GREY CLOUDS GROW THICKER.

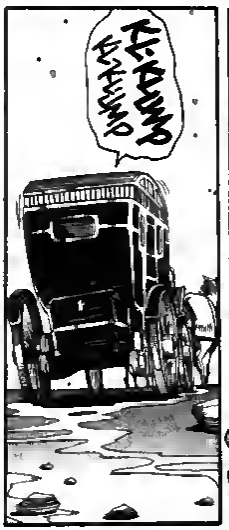

A CONFRON-TATION WITH THE FORMER HERO GROWS NEAR.

WHEN THE YOUNG MAN REALIZED HIS FATHER DIED A COURAGEOUS DEATH...
A NEW KNIGHTLY LEGEND WAS BORN.
CLANK

PARN...
YEAH.
I'M ALRIGHT.
LEONIS, PREPARE FOR DEPAR-TURE.
YES, SIR.

PAT
IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S TIME TO GO...
TO THE CITY OF ROID, IN VALIS.
LET'S GO!




KLUMP
BEHIND

KLUMP

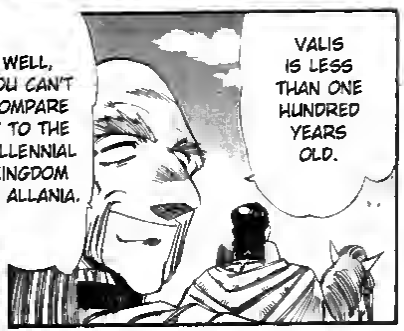
THE MAIN MAN

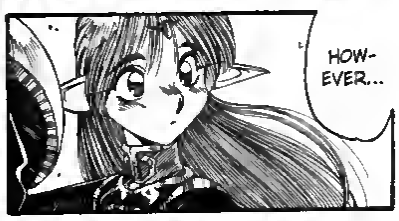
PRINCESS? IS SOME-THING WRONG?

UHH, NO!

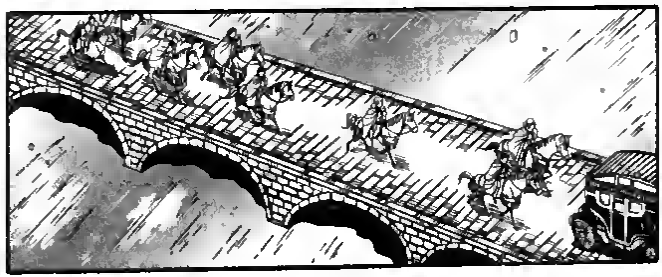
NO...
NOTHING.
I'M FINE.
?
I CAN...
...SEE ROID IN THE DIS-TANCE.

THAT'S ROID? IT'S MUCH SMALLER THAN I THOUGHT.


WELL, YOU CAN'T COMPARE IT TO THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM OF ALLANIA.
VALIS IS LESS THAN ONE HUNDRED YEARS OLD.


HOW-EVER...

THE PEOPLE OF ROID ARE SECOND TO NONE IN THEIR LOYALTY TO THEIR KINGDOM.



I UNDER-STAND HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT THE MEN ON THE FRONT LINES...
BUT WHAT YOU DID...

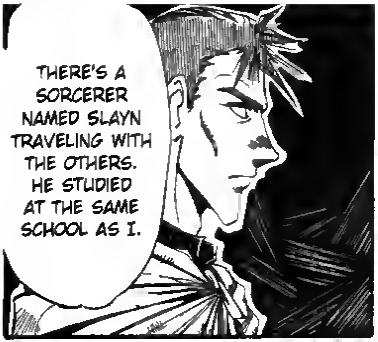
...COST FIVE KNIGHTS...
THEIR LIVES.
YOU ARE THE PRINCESS OF VALIS.
EVERY MOVE YOU MAKE, EVERY WORD YOU UTTER...
AFFECTS MANY PEOPLE...
AND OFTEN-TIMES DETER-MINES THEIR FATE.
DO YOU UNDER-STAND?

Y... YES...
HUG!
I'M RELIEVED YOU RETURNED SAFELY, BUT...
FOR NOW, I WANT YOU TO...
THINK LONG AND HARD ABOUT YOUR POSITION AS PRINCESS OF VALIS.
THIS SHALL BE YOUR PUNISH-MENT.
YES...

I DO NOT CARE IF I AM LAUGHED AT FOR BEING A FOOLISH FATHER.
IN THE MIDST OF THIS CRISIS WE FACE...
NOT A DAY GOES BY THAT I DO NOT PRAY...
FOR FIANNA'S SAFE RETURN.
THAT IS THE PLIGHT OF A PARENT.
EVEN A KING...
IS SOME-ONE'S CHILD.

TELL ME ELM, WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE MEN THAT SAVED FIANNA?
THE COINCI-DENCE IS EXTRA-ORDIN-ARY...
ESPE-CIALLY REGARD-ING...
THE YOUNG MAN, PARN AND HIS BEING THE SON OF THE HOLY KNIGHT, TESSIUS.
HE SEEMS TO HAVE A STRONG SENSE OF JUSTICE AND EXHIBITS THE QUALITIES OF A KNIGHT.
EVEN SO, THERE IS MUCH WE MUST YET TEACH HIM.
THE SON OF TES-SIUS...

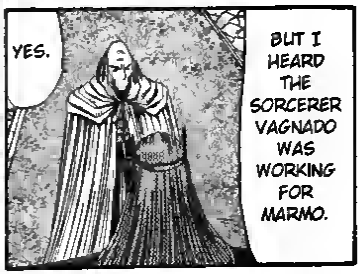
EVEN THOUGH I FOLLOWED THE RULES OF THE HOLY ORDER OF KNIGHTS, I STILL HAVE REGRETS.
SURELY, THIS IS NOT SIMPLY A COINCI-DENCE.
IT GIVES ME A CHANCE TO APOLO-GIZE.
I FEEL CERTAIN THE YOUNG MAN WILL UNDER-STAND, YOUR MAJESTY.
THERE IS JUST ONE MORE THING...
WHAT IS IT?
IT'S ABOUT THE PRINCESS'S KIDNAPPER.


THERE'S A SORCERER NAMED SLAYN TRAVELING WITH THE OTHERS. HE STUDIED AT THE SAME SCHOOL AS I.

ACCORDING TO HIM...

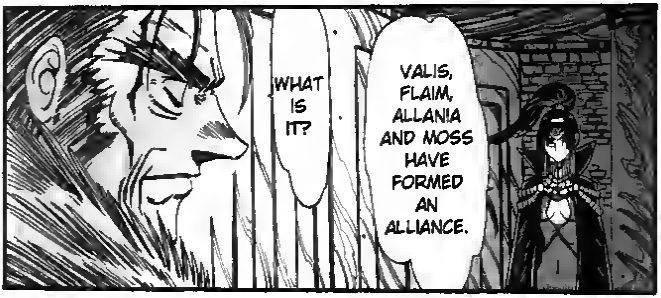
WITH MARMO!?
SHE APPEARS TO BE INVOLVED IN SOME SHADY OPERATIONS.

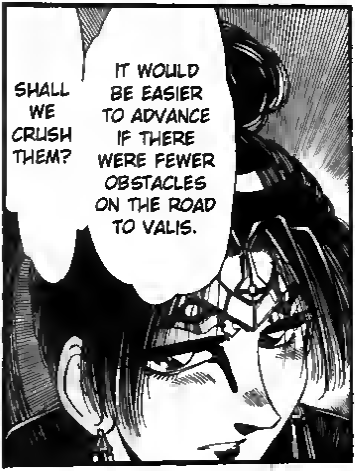
AND SEEMS TO BE WORKING WITH MARMO.
THE KIDNAPPER IS A WITCH WHO GOES BY THE NAME OF KARLA. SHE IS ABLE TO TAP THE POWER OF THE GODDESS MARFA BY USING ANCIENT LANGUAGE...


BUT I HEARD THE SORCERER VAGNADO WAS WORKING FOR MARMO.
YES.

WHEN SHINING HILL, THE PALACE OF KANON, WAS DESTROYED, HUGE METEORITES FELL FROM THE SKY.
I SHALL VENTURE TO ASSERT...
THAT EVEN VAGNADO HAS NO SUCH POWER.
I SEE.
SO THE WITCH IS NO ORDINARY WITCH.

I GUESS THIS MEANS BELD IS NOT OUR ONLY ENEMY.


VALIS, FLAIM, ALLANIA AND MOSS HAVE FORMED AN ALLIANCE.
WHAT IS IT?

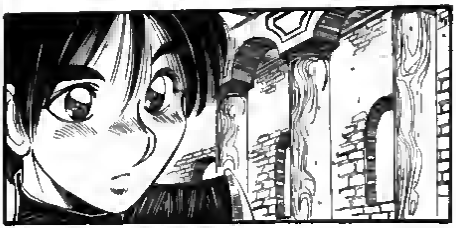

IT WOULD BE EASIER TO ADVANCE IF THERE WERE FEWER OBSTACLES ON THE ROAD TO VALIS.
SHALL WE CRUSH THEM?

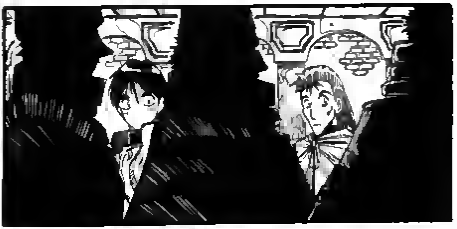
DO AS YOU PLEASE.

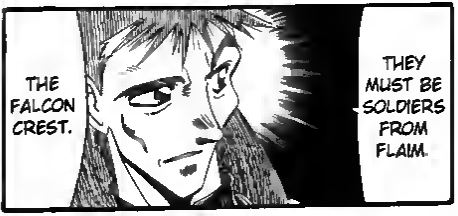
THE KINGDOM OF VALIS, LODOSS ISLAND.
ROID, THE CAPITAL.
WE SHOULDN'T DRINK THIS LIQUOR, SHOULD WE?
I DUNNO.
WHY SHOULDN'T WE?

WE RESCUED THEIR PRECIOUS PRINCESS...
FROM THE CLUTCHES OF THE WITCH.
THEY WOULDN'T CARE IF WE DRANK A HUNDRED BOTTLES.
DO YOU WANT TO MEET KING FAHN WITH THE FACE OF A DRUNKARD, PARN?
UHH... YOU'RE RIGHT.
GRRR
THE KING AWAITS YOU.
PLEASE FOLLOW ME.

CLANG! CLANG!
CLANG!






THE FALCON CREST.
THEY MUST BE SOLDIERS FROM FLAIM.

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I'M POSITIVE THEY'RE...
KNIGHTS FROM FLAIM.
PARN, YOU SHOULD KNOW ...YOU WERE ONCE A MERCENARY IN FLAIM.
!
UHHH.
ISN'T FLAIM A DESERT KINGDOM NORTH OF VALIS?
AND AREN'T THEY PLANNING TO JOIN FORCES WITH VALIS TO FIGHT MARMO?
FLAIM IS A YOUNG KINGDOM WHICH KING KASHU ESTABLISHED IN ONE GENERATION.
I HEAR KING FAHN OF VALIS AND KING KASHU HAVE A REALLY CLOSE FRIENDSHIP.
SO, I GUESS...

WE HAVE ARRIVED AT HIS MAJESTY'S COURT.
ENTER, PLEASE.
CLANK
!!

THAT'S KING KASHU...
NEXT TO KING FAHN!
THE KING HIMSELF CAME TO VALIS!!

I THANK YOU FOR BRINGING FIANNA HOME SAFELY.
I UNDERSTAND THE KIDNAPPER IS A WITCH WHO TOOK THE LIVES OF SEVERAL HOLY KNIGHTS.
AND WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART.
I AM INDEBTED TO YOU FOR SAVING MY DAUGHTER'S LIFE.
Y... YES...
I WOULD LIKE TO OFFER YOU THIS TOKEN OF MY APPRECIATION.
THOUGH IT IS INSUF-FICIENT...
CLANGG

AH...
I... AHH..
HUMBLY ACCEPT.
RELAX.
YOU NEED NOT BE SO FORMAL.
I AM A KING, BUT RIGHT NOW I AM A FATHER EXPRESSING MY GRATITUDE TO MY DAUGHTER'S LIBERATORS.
IT IS I WHO SHOULD BEND MY KNEE IN THANKS.
ESPECIALLY TO YOU, PARN...
SON OF SIR TESSIUS.
THE PALACE SORCERER, ELM, INFORMED ME OF YOUR IDENTITY.

BECAUSE WE WERE UNABLE TO PROVIDE SIR TESSIUS WITH AN HONORABLE BURIAL...
FALSE RUMORS BEGAN SPREADING AT THE TIME...
LEAVING YOU AND YOUR MOTHER TO SUFFER.
FOR THIS I AM DEEPLY SORRY.
HOWEVER, AS KING OF VALIS, AND IN OBSERVANCE OF THE RULES OF THE HOLY ORDER..
I HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO PUNISH HIM.
DO YOU UNDER-STAND MY DILEMMA?

MY FATHER...
...WAS AWARE OF THE FACT THAT HE WOULD DIE A DISHONORABLE DEATH.
WHEN HE WENT TO SAVE THAT VILLAGE...
HE HAD TO BREAK THE RULES.
THAT'S WHAT ELM AND THE KNIGHTS TOLD ME.
IT SEEMS SIR TESSIUS IS STILL ALIVE IN PEOPLE'S HEARTS...
AND MY MOTHER NEVER STOPPED BELIEVING IN HIS COURAGE.

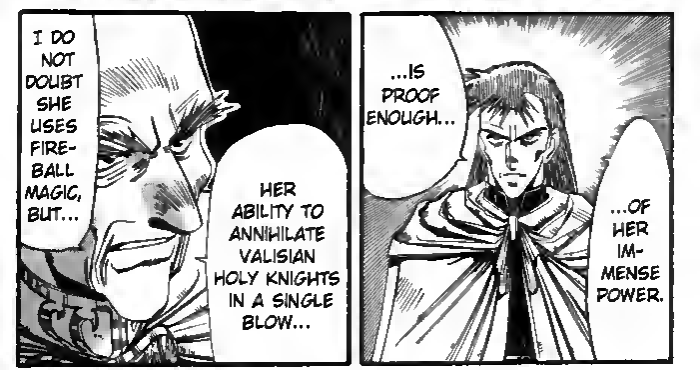
AND NOW... UPON HEARING YOUR WORDS, YOUR MAJESTY...
I NO LONGER...
HAVE ANY DOUBTS.
HMM
VERY GOOD.

I AM PLEASED YOU TOLD ME.
THANKS TO YOUR CHIVALRY, THE PRINCESS WAS RESCUED.
HOWEVER, SHE LEFT WITHOUT PER-MISSION..
AND MUST BE PUNISHED FOR HER ACTIONS.
THEREFORE, FOR THE NEXT THREE MONTHS, FIANNA SHALL NOT BE SEEN IN PUBLIC...
AND WILL BE CONFINED TO HER ROOM.
YOU HAVE ALL BEEN DULY INFORMED!

BUT YOUR MAJESTY, WHAT CONCERNS ME MOST IS THE WITCH WHO KIDNAPPED THE PRINCESS.
I HAVE HEARD SHE IS WORKING FOR MARMO.
SO YOU, TOO, ARE WORRIED ABOUT HER, KING KASHU?
IF SHE IS ABLE TO DESTROY FIVE HOLY KNIGHTS IN ONE BLOW, SHE MUST BE A FORMIDABLE THREAT.
WELL...HERE BEFORE US ARE THE SIX WHO SURVIVED A CONFRONTATION WITH HER.
WELL? WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF HER?

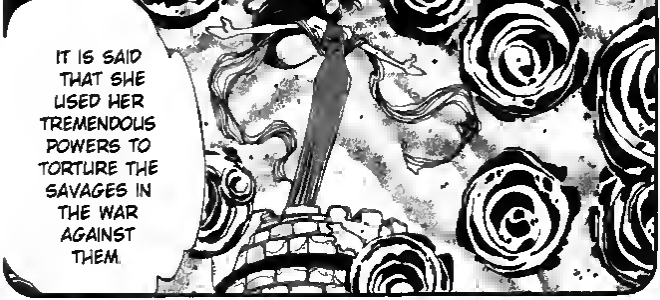
YOUR MAJESTY, WHY DON'T YOU ASK SLAYN ABOUT THE WITCH?
HE STUDIED AT THE SCHOOL OF PHILOSOPHY, AS I DID.
PERHAPS HE HAS NOTICED SOMETHING OF IMPORTANCE.
HMM...
SLAYN, STAND UP AND STATE YOUR OPINION.
YES, SIR.
WITH DUE RESPECT, I HUMBLY ADDRESS THE COURT...
THE WITCH WHO GOES BY THE NAME OF KARLA HAS POWER FAR EXCEEDING THAT OF MINE OR ELM'S.

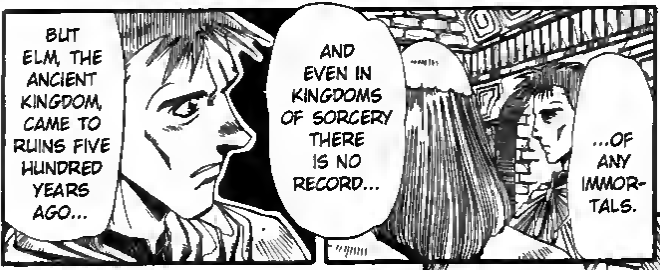
NOT ONLY IS SHE CAPABLE OF TRANSFORMING INTO AN ENORMOUS LOK, BUT SHE USES FIREBALL MAGIC, POWERFUL SORCERY BANNED BY THE SCHOOL,
AS SHE PLEASES.


I DO NOT DOUBT SHE USES FIRE-BALL MAGIC, BUT...
HER ABILITY TO ANNIHILATE VALISIAN HOLY KNIGHTS IN A SINGLE BLOW...
...IS PROOF ENOUGH...
...OF HER IM-MENSE POWER.

MARFA'S POWER?
SHE IS ALSO A PRIEST-ESS SERVING MARFA.
THAT MEANS ...
SURELY THERE MUST BE SOME RECORD OF HER.
IF SHE IS SO NO-TOR-IOUS,
REGRET-TABLY, THERE IS NO RECORD.
WHAT DO YOU THINK, ELM?
AND NOT ONLY IS SHE ABLE TO PERFORM SORCERY CONJURED THROUGH ANCIENT LANGUAGE,
SHE CAN ALSO TAP MARFA'S POWER.

ANCIENT KING-DOM?
YES.
...OF THE ANCIENT KING-DOM.
BUT THERE WAS A WITCH NAMED KARLA IN A LEGEND...
IT WAS A KING-DOM IN WHICH SORCERY FLOUR-ISHED.
THE SPELLS WE CAST TODAY USING THAT ANCIENT LANGUAGE ARE JUST A SMALL PART OF THEIR LEGACY.
IT IS BELIEVED THAT MOST SORCERERS LOST THEIR LIVES, ALONG WITH THE DEMISE OF THE KINGDOM.
THERE WAS BUT A SINGLE WITCH WHO SURVIVED THE DEVAS-TATION.
HER NAME WAS KARLA.


IT IS SAID THAT SHE USED HER TREMENDOUS POWERS TO TORTURE THE SAVAGES IN THE WAR AGAINST THEM.


BUT ELM, THE ANCIENT KINGDOM, CAME TO RUINS FIVE HUNDRED YEARS AGO...
AND EVEN IN KINGDOMS OF SORCERY THERE IS NO RECORD...
...OF ANY IMMORTALS.

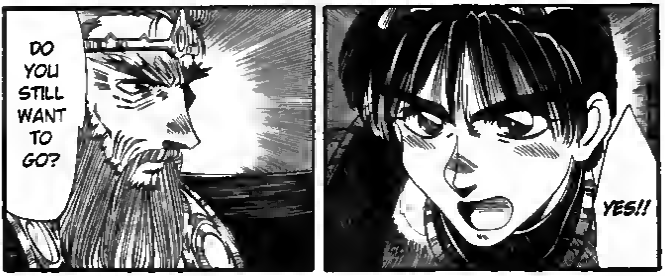
ONLY ELVES ...
CAN LIVE THAT LONG.
THERE ARE NO WITCHES AMONG ELVES.
THEN KARLA MUST BE A FIVE-HUNDRED-YEAR-OLD HAG, MUSTN'T SHE?

I BEG YOUR PARDON FOR MY INABILITY TO ANSWER THAT QUESTION.
PERHAPS THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN SOLVE THIS MYSTERY IS THE GREAT SAGE, WORT.
HMMM...WORT... I AM CERTAIN HE POSSESSES THE WISDOM NECESSARY TO BE TITLED A SAGE.
WE FOUGHT TOGETHER IN THE WAR AGAINST EVIL,
BUT HE'S QUITE ECCENTRIC.
HE'S NOW A HERMIT LIVING DEEP IN THE MOUNTAINS OF MOSS.
WITH THE WAR AGAINST MARMO AT HAND, WE CAN NOT SPARE EVEN ONE SOLDIER.
WHO WILL GO LOOK FOR WORT?

IT COULD BE A PERILOUS JOURNEY. WE SHOULD CHOOSE A KNIGHT.
WON'T YOU...
ALLOW ME THE HONOR.
CLANG!

I AM JUST A TRAVELING WARRIOR. IF I MAY BE OF SERVICE TO YOU, YOUR MAJESTY, I WOULD BE HONORED TO TAKE ON THIS TASK.
BECAUSE I AM NOT A MEMBER OF YOUR RANKS,
YOU WOULD NOT BE SPARING ANY OF YOUR MEN.
IN ORDER TO REACH WORT YOU WILL HAVE TO PASS THROUGH THE ABANDONED CAVE OF THE DWARVES...
NOTORIOUSLY KNOWN AS THE CAVE OF EVIL.

I HEAR THERE'S A SLEEPING DRAGON AND MAN-EATING OGRES IN THE CAVE. THOSE WHO ARE NOT EXTREMELY CAUTIOUS, DO NOT GET OUT ALIVE.
ALSO, THERE IS NO TELLING WHEN THE WITCH MIGHT ATTACK.


DO YOU STILL WANT TO GO?
YES!!

HE'D RATHER GO ON A SOLITARY MISSION THAN FIGHT AN HONORABLE WAR.
HE'S JUST LIKE TESSIUS.

PARN, I THANK YOU FOR YOUR OFFER.
I SHALL NOW WRITE A LETTER TO WORT.

PARN! I TRUST YOU WILL CARRY OUT THIS MISSION...
AND RETURN SAFELY TO VALIS.
UPON YOUR RETURN I PROMISE TO RECEIVE YOU AS ONE OF MY MEN!
EVEN IF I MUST RISK MY LIFE, I WILL FIND OUT WHO THAT WITCH REALLY IS.
SO PARN'S GONNA TAKE ALL THE CREDIT?

BLEST BE THIS JOYOUS DAY WHEN WE GREET THE RIGHTEOUS KING OF THE DESERT AND THE SON OF TESSIUS!
THERE IS NO DOUBT WE SHALL PROVE VICTORIOUS IN THE WAR WITH MARMO!
HOOOPAH
EVERY-ONE, LET US PREPARE A FEAST!
LET US MAKE THIS DAY MERRY!!

I'M SORRY I SPOKE ONLY FOR MYSELF...
SO I WON'T TRY TO CONVINCE YOU TO COME.
I'M DETER-MINED TO GO, EVEN IF I HAVE TO GO ALONE
BUT...
THAT'S QUITE ADMIR-ABLE SIR KNIGHT...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO RISK YOUR LIVES ANY-MORE
AS LONG AS WE GET A BIG REWARD FOR RESCU-ING THE PRIN-CESS,

I WON'T LET YOU GO ALONE,
'CAUSE YOU'LL JUST GET INTO TROU-BLE.
PAT!
MEET-ING THE GREAT SAGE, WORT.
I, TOO, LOOK FOR-WARD TO...
IT GOES WITH-OUT SAY-ING.
AS YOUR CHILD-HOOD FRIEND,
!
GET INTO TROU-BLE?
HUH?
I'LL GO TOO, FOR MY OWN REAS-ONS.

OK...
I'LL GO WITH YA GUYS, TOO.
LET'S EAT!!
MY FRIENDS..
EAT QUICK OR GHIM'LL EAT IT ALL
AHH.
THANKS.

KASHU.
HMM...I, TOO, WAS ONCE A TRAVEL-ING WARRIOR.
HE'S AN ADVEN-TURER AT HEART.
IT'S BEEN A VERY LONG TIME SINCE I'VE SEEN SUCH AN UPSTANDING YOUNG MAN.
IT BRINGS BACK MEMORIES. I MISS THAT KIND OF FREEDOM.

To Be Continued...

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The Grey Witch

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TAKE CARE...
OF YOUR-SELF.
!
THEY'RE.
DRAGON KNIGHTS FROM MOSS.
CLOP CLOP CLOP
CLOP CLOP CLOP
CLOP CLOP CLOP

THEY MUST BE JOINING THE WAR AGAINST MARMO, JUST LIKE FLAIM DID.
IT SEEMS SO.
I WONDER IF THE WAR WILL BE OVER BY THE TIME WE RETURN.
I HOPE SO.
YEAH...

WHAT A HORRIBLE PLACE TO LIVE.
WORT'S AN OLD MAN, ISN'T HE?
HOW CAN HE LIVE ALONE IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?

IT'S THEM, ISN'T IT?
THEY'RE THE ONES THAT HELD YOU UP.
HE SHOULD BE IN THAT TOWER.
IT'LL TAKE A FEW HOURS TO WALK AROUND THE CAPE.
I AGREE!!
LET'S TAKE A BREAK...

EVEN I...
AM AN INFANT IN THE FACE OF DESTINY.
WELL?
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT THEM?
HMM..
YOU MEAN YOU'VE LIVED FIVE HUNDRED YEARS...
IF THEY TRY TO ATTACK ME.
I WONDER WHOM FATE WILL SMILE ON.
IF YOU KILL THEM, I WANT YOU TO DO IT WHERE I WON'T SEE.
AND YOU STILL HAVE NOT CONQUERED DESTINY?

TEE HEE...
IS THERE A PLACE ON LODOSS YOU CAN'T SEE?
AS FAR AS I KNOW THE POWER OF THIS CRYSTAL BALL...
IS LIMIT-LESS.
BESIDES...
I LIKE THEM AND WANT THEM TO JOIN ME IF POSSIBLE.
JOIN YOU?
ACCEPTING THEIR FATE, THEY HAVE SURVIVED MANY A CRISIS AND HAVE CARRIED OUT THEIR MISSION.
THEY REMIND ME OF HOW YOU USED TO BE

JUST AS YOU, BELD AND FAHN CONFRONTED EVIL IN THE DEEPEST LABYRINTH.
THESE ADVENTURERS ARE ABOUT TO CONFRONT A WITCH NAMED KARLA.
WHOM THEY BELIEVE TO BE THEIR ENEMY.
SO...
IT'S TIME TO HAVE A WORD WITH THEM

IF THEY UNDER-STAND ME, THEY'LL JOIN ME.
IF NOT, I SHALL LEAVE THIS PLACE.
AT WHICH TIME, I WANT YOU TO INFORM THEM OF MY WHERE-ABOUTS.
I WILL NOT RUN AWAY NOR HIDE.
KARLA.. WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?
I TOLD YOU.
I DON'T KNOW WHOM FATE WILL SMILE ON

HMPH.
STANDING IN HISTORY'S SHADOW,
THE GREY WITCH CONTINUES TO EXPLOIT HUMANITY'S DESTINY AND MANIPULATE THE WORLD..
WHO DOES SHE THINK SHE IS?
WORT, MAY I USE YOUR KITCHEN?
IT'S IMPOLITE TO GREET BRAVE MEN EMPTY HANDED.
AHH.. BE MY GUEST
ZZZT

THAT REQUEST FLAUS MADE IN THE DEEPEST LABYRINTH
BELD, YOUR ATTEMPT TO LIVE UP TO..
..BELD.
WON'T YOU BE THE KING OF LODOSS, BELD?
WHO CAN UNITE ALL THE KING-DOMS.
ON THIS ISLAND OF NEVER-ENDING WAR, WE NEED ONE GREAT KING.
JUST MAKES YOU A PAWN IN KARLA'S BALANCING ACT.
FLAUS!!

PLEASE ..
BRING EVER-LASTING PEACE TO LODOSS.
IT'S ONLY YOUR COMMITMENT TO FLAUS'S REQUEST THAT COMPELS YOU TO BECOME KING OF LODOSS.
IT'S SUCH A PITY. ALTHOUGH YOUR METHODS DIFFER, YOU AND FAHN HAVE THE SAME DREAM...
PEACE FOR LODOSS.

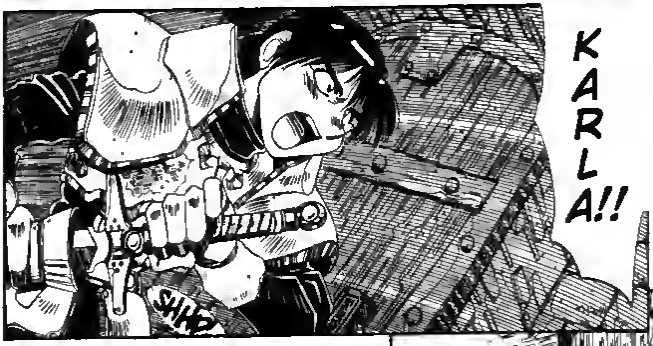
CLINK
THIS IS IT!
CREEAK
HE MUST KNOW WE'RE HERE.
UHH... I DON'T KNOW.

HELLOOO.
WE WERE SENT HERE BY KING FAHN OF VALIS.
IS THE GREAT SAGE, WORT, HERE?
HE CAN'T BE OUT!
I'M SURE HE'S NOT. I HEAR VOICES FROM UPSTAIRS
UP-STAIRS?
I GUESS WE'VE GOT TO CLIMB THOSE STAIRS.

MORE CLIMBING!? SHEEESH
I WISH THE STAIRS WOULD GO UP BY THEMSELVES
CLANG
RATTLE
HUH?
WOOOAH!! WHAT'S GOING ON!?
THE STAIRS ARE MOVING!!
RATTLE
RATTLE
DARN!!
THIS IS FUN!! THEY'RE MOVING BY MAGIC. HOW EASY LIFE WOULD BE IF ALL STAIRCASES IN THE WORLD COULD DO THIS.
I WISH THE MOUNTAIN WE JUST CLIMBED MOVED LIKE THIS

HUP!!
THIS IS PARN, THE TRAVELING WARRIOR WE RECEIVED NO RESPONSE AND SO WE ARE COMING UP.
THERE'S NO NEED TO SHOUT!
COME IN
PARDON US.
CREEAK!

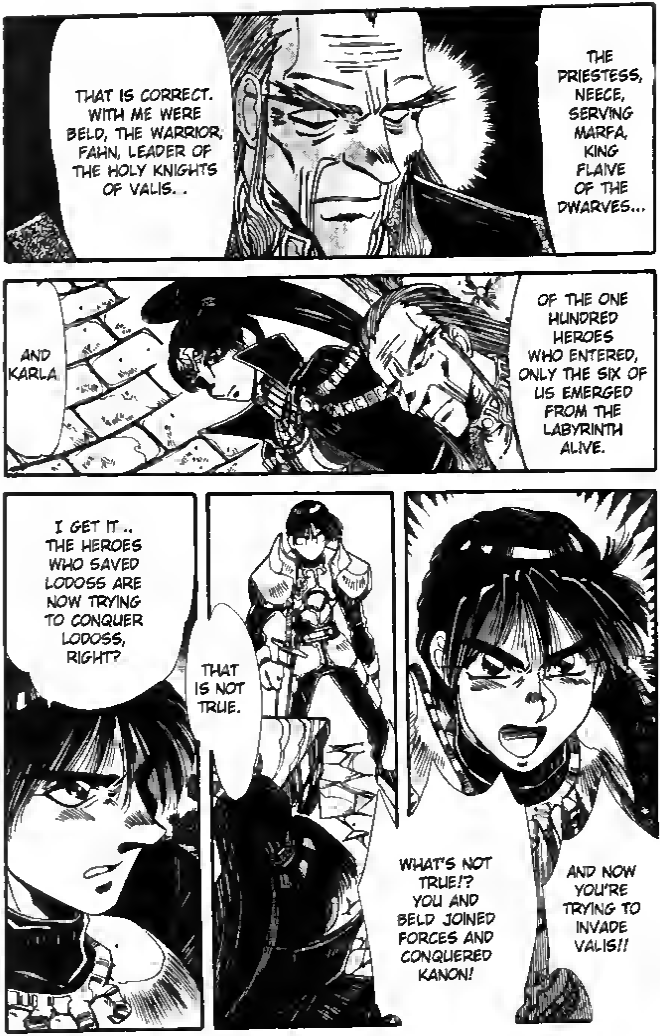
!!


KARLA!!
SHIP

DO NOT DRAW YOUR SWORD IN MY HOUSE!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE!?
I AM VISITING AN OLD COMRADE
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, WORT?
RELAX. I HAVE NO INTENTION OF FIGHTING YOU HERE.
HMPH
WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

DOES THAT MEAN YOU WERE ONE OF THE SIX HEROES WHO CONQUERED EVIL IN THE WAR AGAINST EVIL!?
YES I WAS
IN THE POEM OF THE SIX HEROES, THE SORCERER WARRIOR DID NOT STATE HIS NAME.
SO IT'S YOU!! YOU'RE THE SIXTH HERO!
WHAT!?
!!
WORT AND I FOUGHT AGAINST EVIL TOGETHER IN THE DEEPEST LABYRINTH.


THAT IS CORRECT. WITH ME WERE BELD, THE WARRIOR, FAHN, LEADER OF THE HOLY KNIGHTS OF VALIS. .
THE PRIESTESS, NEECE, SERVING MARFA, KING FLAIVE OF THE DWARVES...
AND KARLA
OF THE ONE HUNDRED HEROES WHO ENTERED, ONLY THE SIX OF US EMERGED FROM THE LABYRINTH ALIVE.
I GET IT .. THE HEROES WHO SAVED LODOSS ARE NOW TRYING TO CONQUER LODOSS, RIGHT?
THAT IS NOT TRUE.
WHAT'S NOT TRUE!? YOU AND BELD JOINED FORCES AND CONQUERED KANON!
AND NOW YOU'RE TRYING TO INVADE VALIS!!

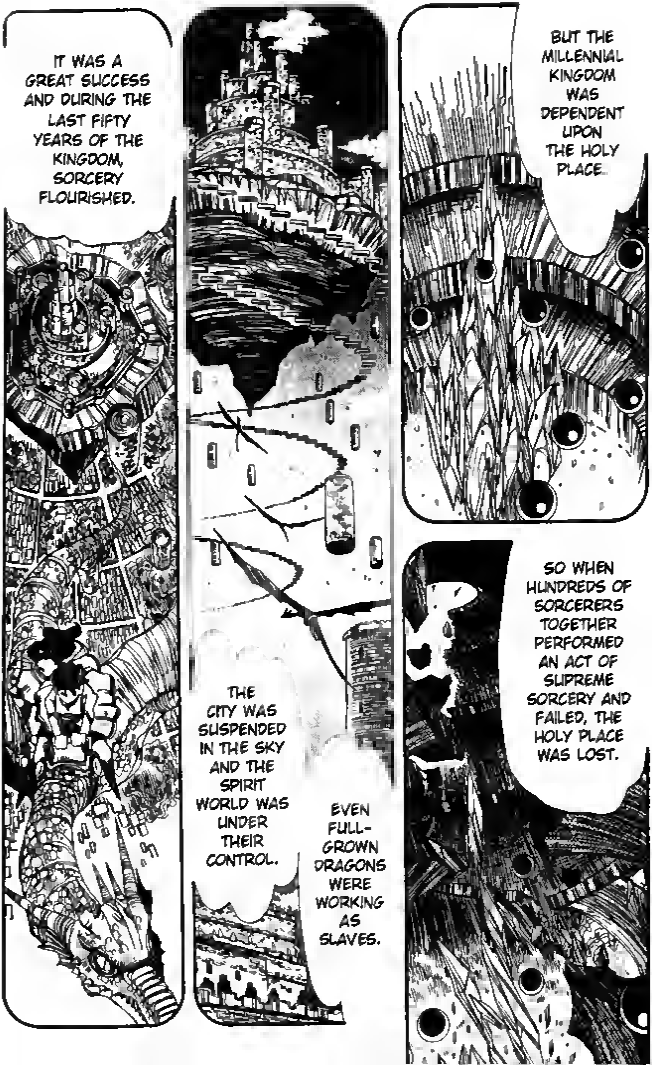
I DO NOT RECALL JOINING FORCES WITH BELD.
YOU'RE A LIAR.
IT IS TRUE I HAVE HELPED BELD A BIT, BUT IT WAS IN AN ATTEMPT TO SAVE LODOSS FROM TOTAL DESTRUCTION.
YOU MIS-UNDER-STAND ME.
BELD CAN'T BE TRUSTED!
DO NOT BE SO SURE. BELD AND FAHN HAVE THE SAME DESIRE
PEACE FOR LODOSS

ONE GREAT KING BELD RULES WITH THE POWER OF DARKNESS
THE OTHER, FAHN,
THROUGH THE POWER OF FAITH IN THE LIGHT.
EITHER ONE OR THE OTHER, DARK OR LIGHT.
COULD BRING STABILITY TO LODOSS.
CLK
CLAK
BUT THE PEACE WOULD BE BRIEF...
EVENTUALLY, THE CONFLICT WOULD LEAD TO ANNIHILATION.
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY?
SHAE
CLANG

CLAK!
DO YOU KNOW WHY THE ANCIENT KINGDOM FELL?
AND I MEAN THE REAL REASON
WHY?
ACCORDING TO LEGEND
IT WAS DUE TO A MISUSE OF SUPREME SORCERY. BUT THE LEGEND...
IS FIVE HUNDRED YEARS OLD WE'VE NO WAY TO DETERMINE IF IT IS TRUE.
ONLY SOMEONE WHO LIVED THROUGH IT WOULD KNOW.
KARLA KNOWS
SHE IS A SURVIVOR FROM THE ANCIENT KINGDOM.

HMM. I THOUGHT SO
?
GHM?
BAR JAK
ALRIGHT, WHAT'S THE STORY?
WHAT'S THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE ANCIENT KINGDOM AND US?
WUMP
WELL...
ACCORDING TO LEGEND, THE ANCIENT KINGDOM FELL BECAUSE OF A MISUSE OF SUPREME SORCERY.

BUT THAT MISUSE SIMPLY OPENED THE DOOR TO THE DEVASTATION
THE REAL REASON WAS THE INVASION OF SAVAGES
THE SORCERERS OF THE ANCIENT KINGDOM USED SORCERY TO SUCH A DEGREE THAT AN ENORMOUS HOLY PLACE WAS CREATED TO STORE ALL THAT POWER.
THE SORCERERS INSTALLED CRYSTAL BALLS ON THEIR FOREHEADS TO DRAW POWER FROM THE HOLY PLACE


IT WAS A GREAT SUCCESS AND DURING THE LAST FIFTY YEARS OF THE KINGDOM, SORCERY FLOURISHED.
THE CITY WAS SUSPENDED IN THE SKY AND THE SPIRIT WORLD WAS UNDER THEIR CONTROL.
EVEN FULL-GROWN DRAGONS WERE WORKING AS SLAVES.
BUT THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM WAS DEPENDENT UPON THE HOLY PLACE.
SO WHEN HUNDREDS OF SORCERERS TOGETHER PERFORMED AN ACT OF SUPREME SORCERY AND FAILED, THE HOLY PLACE WAS LOST.

THE CITY LOST ITS SUPPORT AND TUMBLED TO THE GROUND.
WITHOUT ANY SORCERERS TO PROTECT THE CITY WITH MAGIC, THE INVASION OF THE SAVAGES BEGAN
THE KINGDOM OF SORCERY WAS ENTIRELY DEPENDENT ON THE HOLY PLACE
IT WAS POWER-LESS WITHOUT SORCERY
IN THE FACE OF A SAVAGE INVASION, NOTHING COULD BE DONE TO SAVE IT
SOME WERE BURNED, OTHERS CHOPPED INTO PIECES
THEY WERE UNABLE TO DEFEND THEM-SELVES.
IT TOOK LESS THAN FIVE YEARS TO WIPE OUT THE ONCE FLOURISHING KINGDOM
LESS THAN FIVE YEARS

To Be Continued...

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IF THIS WAR STARTS, THE SAME THING WILL HAPPEN
THERE WERE MANY VICTIMS OF THE WAR AGAINST EVIL, RIGHT?
THE ANCIENT KINGDOM ACHIEVED PEACE AND STABILITY THROUGH THE POWER OF SORCERY
CLAK
BUT NOT EVERYONE WAS DESTROYED...
WHEN THAT POWER WAS LOST, IT STARTED DOWN THE ROAD TO RUIN.
CLAK
CLAK
THE WORLD CANNOT DEPEND ON ONE POWER ALONE.
DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

RIGHT NOW LODOSS IS WAVERING BETWEEN TWO POWERS, LIGHT AND DARK.
GLK
THAT IS BECAUSE I HAVE BEEN INTERVENING IN HISTORY BY SHIFTING THE BALANCE.
IF BOTH POWERS EXHAUST THEMSELVES IN BATTLE, NEITHER ONE WILL BE ABLE TO EXPAND THEIR POWER ENOUGH TO UPSET THE BALANCE
GLK
IF I STOP TIPPING THE BALANCE, BOTH SIDES WILL STORE UP POWER UNTIL IT EVENTUALLY LEANS TOWARD ONE SIDE OR THE OTHER.
AND..
TINK
SPLASH

THERE IS NO RETURNING TO A CIVILIZATION THAT IS LOST.
YOU MUST NOT FORGET THIS.
IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO RETRIEVE THE POWER OF THE ANCIENT KINGDOM,
BUT...
IF YOU REALLY UNDERSTAND WHAT I AM SAYING...
YOU WILL, AS I PROPOSED EARLIER, JOIN ME...
...THE LONGER THE WORLD DEPENDS ON ONE POWER FOR PEACE, THE GREATER THE DEVASTATION WILL BE.

CLAW
TO SAVE LODOSS FROM TOTAL DESTRUC-TION...
WE WILL NOT!!
YOU THINK THAT AS LONG AS WE STAY AT WAR..
THERE WILL BE PEACE IN LODOSS!!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT IDEAS YOU'RE FILLING BELD'S HEAD WITH, BUT...
IF YOU'VE BEEN INTERFERING WITH HISTORY BY SHIFTING THE BALANCE...

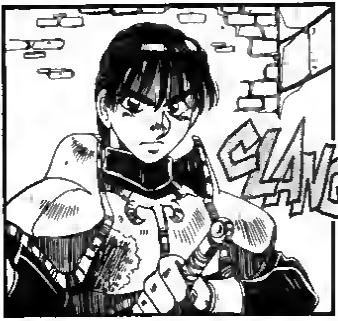
YOU'RE TO BLAME FOR ALL OF THESE WARS!
GOD KNOWS HOW MANY LIVES HAVE BEEN LOST!
IF THE REAL ANNIHILATION COMES TO PASS, PEOPLE'S LIVES WILL BE STREWN LIKE DUST.
AND EVERYTHING THEY HAVE BUILT WILL BE LOST.
THAT'S NOT FOR YOU TO DECIDE.
ALL RIGHT.

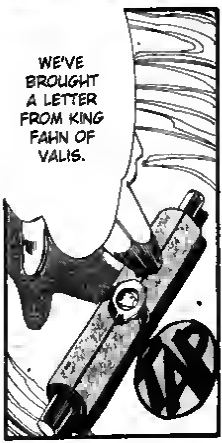
IF YOU WILL NOT JOIN ME...
I WILL REMAIN YOUR OPPONENT.
LET'S SETTLE IT RIGHT HERE!!
CHING
WAIT! WAIT, PARN!!
GHIM!!

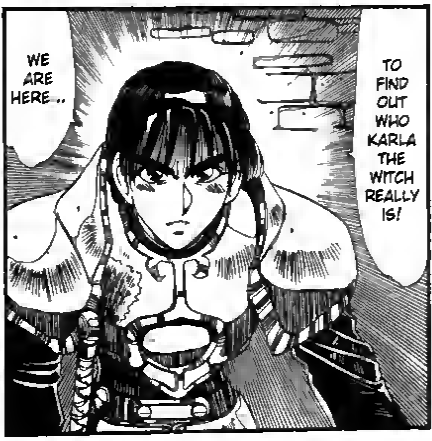
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, GHIM!?
ARE WE GONNA JUST LET HER GO LIKE THIS!?
PARN!!
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN? YOU CAN'T USE A SWORD IN HERE!
BESIDES, WE DIDN'T COME HERE TO FIGHT!!
DAMN
INTO WIND TRANSFORM THIS BODY CONVERT THESE HANDS
SEND THEM SOARING ACROSS VAST LANDS!
SHU
.....

SO...

LET'S HEAR WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY.


CLANG


WE'VE BROUGHT A LETTER FROM KING FAHN OF VALIS.
ZAP


WE ARE HERE..
TO FIND OUT WHO KARLA THE WITCH REALLY IS!

THE BORDER BETWEEN SOUTHEAST VALIS AND KANON
!!
CLOP! CLOP! CLOP! CLOP! CLOP
SWOOP
HEE HEE HEE HEE!
OGRES FROM THE MARMO ARMY!!

THEY'VE INVADED VALIS!!
THOSE BEASTS!!
GRRRR
THUD

ROID, CAPITAL OF VALIS
I HEARD THAT THE ASSASSIN OF ALLANIA'S ROYAL FAMILY WAS THE DUKE OF LASTAR, BROTHER OF KING KADAMOS. THERE SEEMS TO BE NO CONTROLLING THE REBELLIONS IN ALLANIA.
REBELLIONS ARE BREAKING OUT IN MOSS AS WELL.
SAVAGES HAVE BEGUN INVADING KING KASHU'S KINGDOM OF FLAIM
THIS CANNOT BE JUST A COINCIDENCE THIS IS ALL HAPPENING JUST AS VALIS, ALLANIA, MOSS AND FLAIM ARE PREPARING TO UNITE..
TO FIGHT AGAINST MARMO.

IT LOOKS LIKE MARMO'S STRATEGY IS TO WEAKEN US BY BREAKING UP THE ALLIANCE.
KANON
SIGH
SIGH
IF KASHU'S SOLDIERS HAD NOT HELD THEIR GROUND, OUR VALISIAN EXPEDITION FORCES WOULD SURELY HAVE BEEN DEFEATED.
THE MARMO ARMY WAS NOT EXPECTING US TO SURVIVE.
THE NEXT CONFLICT WILL BE AN ALL-OUT WAR
...WHICH MEANS BELD WILL FIGHT.
I'M SURE HE IS LOOKING FORWARD TO FIGHTING ME.
BELD, KING OF MARMO.
AS KING OF VALIS, I SHALL ACCEPT HIS CHALLENGE.

DAMN, IT'S STARTING TO RAIN.
CLOP! CLOP!
WHO GOES THERE!?
SHIP

I AM PARN.
WE HAVE RETURNED FROM VISITING WORT.
WE ARE HERE TO SEE KING FAHN!
PARN! YOU HAVE RETURNED SAFELY. WELCOME!
WE WILL OPEN THE GATE FOR YOU.

WELL, YOU HAVE RETURNED UNSCATHED!
PARN, ETOH AND SLAYN..
I WISH I COULD SAY TAKE A NICE LONG REST, BUT..
LEONIS!

AS SOON AS YOU CHANGE CLOTHES, WE NEED YOU TO JOIN OUR STRATEGIC COUNCIL.
YOU CAN FILL US IN THEN.
FLOOD
RATTLE! RATTLE!
CHANGE CLOTHES?
WHAT'S THIS?

COME JOIN THE COUNCIL AS A VALISIAN KNIGHT!
YOU WILL BE DECORATED WITH THE VALISIAN MEDAL LATER.
THIS IS YOUR ARMOR, PARN.

THAT'S WHAT KING FAHN SAID. AND HE WASN'T JOKING
ME... A... VALISIAN KNIGHT... REALLY?
ME... A... KNIGHT!!

JUST LIKE... MY FATHER.

LIKE SIR TESSIUS, BRAVE AND RIGHTEOUS..
WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN THE ORDER.

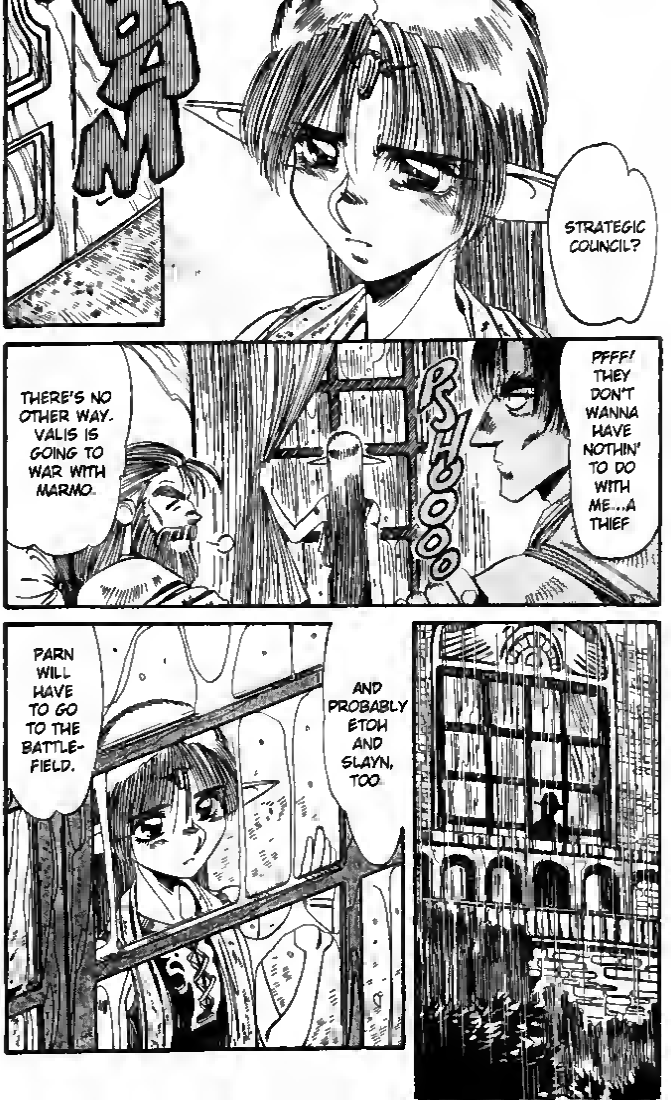
I WILL!

GREAT.

AND YOU, ETOH...
ME?
WILL BE APPOINTED TO THE VALISIAN PRIESTHOOD BY THE HIGH PRIEST, GENARDO.
KING KASHU HAS SOMETHING HE WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS WITH YOU.
HMM... NOW SLAYN...
YES?
WITH ME?
WON'T YOU PLEASE ACCEPT?
I HUMBLY ACCEPT!!
Y... YE... YES!! I ACCEPT.
YOU WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL THE CEREMONIES FOR PHARIS.
HUH?

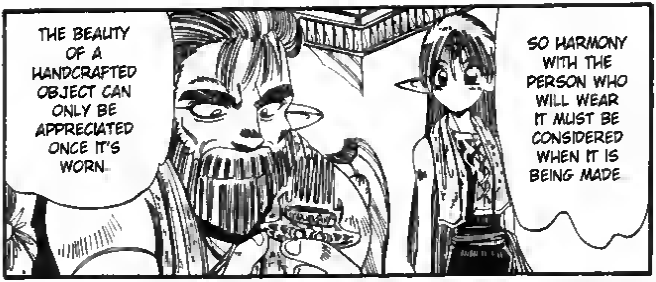
WHAT MIGHT THAT BE?
HMPH .. THAT'S IT?
CLANG CLANG
PLEASE MAKE YOURSELVES AT HOME.
AND FOR THE REST OF YOU, WE HAVE DINNER AND REWARDS WAITING IN THE NEXT ROOM.
I SEE. I WILL HAVE SOMEONE ESCORT YOU THERE.
CLINK
THANKS
WHAT I'D REALLY LIKE IS TO USE A WORKSHOP, IF YOU HAVE ONE.
GIVE OUR REWARDS TO WOOD.
GRIP
THANK YOU, BUT I DID NOT JOIN THE GROUP IN ORDER TO RECEIVE A REWARD.

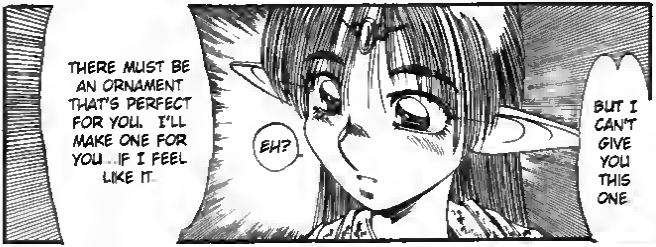
-ANG!
WELL... LET US GO.
GOOD LUCK!
THANKS.

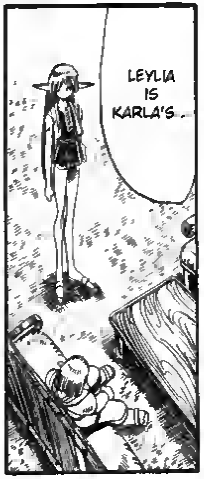

STRATEGIC COUNCIL?
PFFF! THEY DON'T WANNA HAVE NOTHIN' TO DO WITH ME...A THIEF
RSHOOO
THERE'S NO OTHER WAY. VALIS IS GOING TO WAR WITH MARMO.
AND PROBABLY ETOH AND SLAYN, TOO.
PARN WILL HAVE TO GO TO THE BATTLE-FIELD.

AND ME.
HUH?
NOTHING. BY THE WAY, GHIM....
WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO IN THE WORK-SHOP?
FLIP
I WANT TO FINISH THIS

A COMB?
IT'S NOT FOR YOU.
I DIDN'T ASK FOR IT
BUT FORGET IT NOW!
I WAS JUST GONNA COMPLIMENT YOU ON MAKING SUCH A DELICATE PIECE WITH THOSE STUBBY FINGERS.
IT WOULDN'T LOOK GOOD ON YOU ANYWAY.
YEAH, YEAH
YOU'RE GETTING TRASHY.
TRAVELING WITH YOU GUYS, WHAT DO YOU EXPECT?
THAT'S TRUE.


THE BEAUTY OF A HANDCRAFTED OBJECT CAN ONLY BE APPRECIATED ONCE IT'S WORN.
SO HARMONY WITH THE PERSON WHO WILL WEAR IT MUST BE CONSIDERED WHEN IT IS BEING MADE.





CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE ...

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RECORD of LODOSS WAR

The Grey Witch

Kyo Mizuno • Yoshihiko Ochi

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The Grey Witch

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WORT'S TOWER IN MOOS
TWO WEEKS LATER
IT IS UNDER-STAND-ABLE THAT YOU DO NOT TRUST ME.
BUT I AM NOT A FRIEND OF KARLA'S AT PRESENT.
EVEN BELD
.. CANNOT BELIEVE HE FOUGHT SIDE BY SIDE WITH THAT WITCH,
IN THE WAR AGAINST EVIL.
KARLA..

...USED TO BE A LANKY, UNCOUTH, ARMOR-CLAD SORCERER
SHE'S COMPLETELY DIFFERENT NOW
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
HE'S TRYING TO SAY THAT KARLA HAS SURVIVED BY TAKING OVER SOMEONE ELSE'S BODY

ISN'T THAT WHAT YOU WERE GONNA SAY?
EH?
!
YOU KNEW WHO KARLA REALLY WAS, DIDN'T YOU?
GHIM, YOU KNEW
THIS IS AMAZING! A DWARF WHO KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT SORCERY CAN RECOGNIZE THE TRUTH!

WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL US?
I WANTED TO HEAR WHAT THE OLD MAN HAD TO SAY FIRST, TO MAKE SURE
SPIRITS CAN LIVE ON, BUT FLESH CANNOT DEFY THE FLOW OF TIME.
YOU'RE RIGHT. EVEN SORCERERS CAN ONLY LIVE TWO HUNDRED YEARS AT MOST.
NO WITCH CAN SURVIVE FIVE HUNDRED YEARS, RIGHT?
BUT KARLA INVENTED A SPELL THAT BROKE THE LIMIT.
AS THE DWARF SAYS, SHE TOOK OVER THE BODY AND SOUL OF SOMEONE ELSE AND HAS BEEN ABLE TO LIVE A VERY LONG TIME

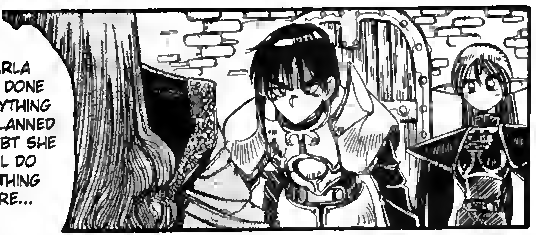
HAVE YOU NOTICED THE CIRCLET ON HER FOREHEAD?
THAT IS THE SOURCE OF HER POWER. ACTUALLY, YOU COULD SAY THE CIRCLET IS HER
A PERSON WHO THROWS AWAY THEIR BODY, BUT WHOSE SPIRIT REMAINS, IS LIKE A GHOST.
I CAN NO LONGER CALL KARLA A PERSON
YOU MEAN SHE EXISTS, BUT SHE ISN'T ALIVE?
WELL PUT
YOU SEEM TO BE EVEN SHARPER THAN THE AVERAGE SORCERER
HA!
I'M NOT THAT SMART.

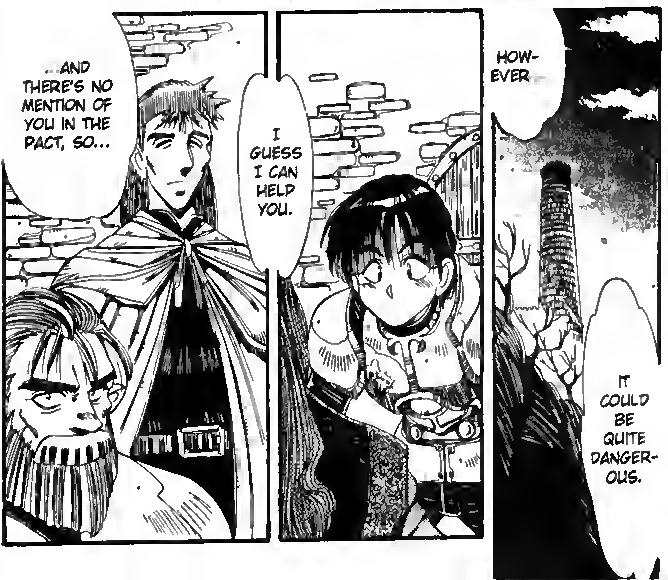
I'M JUST SEARCHING FOR A MISSING GIRL
I SET OUT ON THIS TRIP TO FIND THE GIRL AND BRING HER BACK TO THE VILLAGE OF TARBA
OH MY GOD, COULD THE GIRL BE...
KARLA?
HER REAL NAME IS LEYLIA
SHE'S THE ONLY DAUGHTER OF THE MARFA PRIESTESS NEECE
ONE OF THE SIX HEROES.

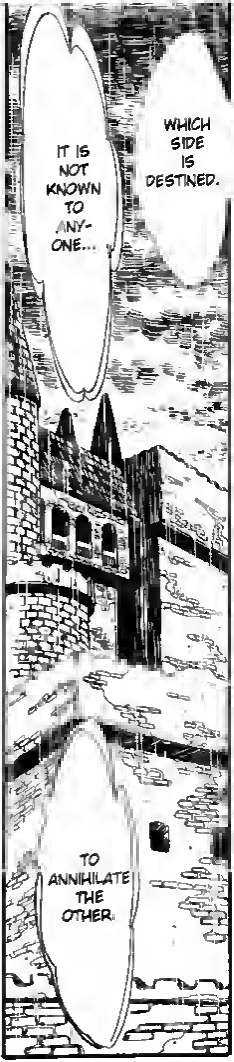
WHEN I LEFT TARBA,
THE GODDESS MARFA, SPEAKING THROUGH NEECE SAID,
"LEYLIA IS ALIVE, BUT SHE DOESN'T EXIST."
SO THE PERSON WHOSE BODY AND SOUL KARLA POSSESSES...
IS LEYLIA.
I'M SORRY, BUT I COULDN'T SAY ANYTHING TILL I WAS SURE.
NOW IT'S MAKING SENSE.

MASTER WORT...
IF YOU'RE NOT KARLA'S ALLY,
TELL US...
HOW TO KILL KARLA AND SAVE THE GIRL.
I KNEW YOU WOULD ASK.
AREN'T YOU GONNA TELL US?

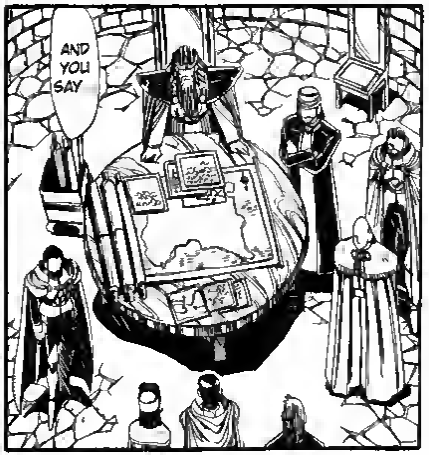
KARLA AND I HAVE MADE A PACT.
IN EXCHANGE FOR MY NOT GETTING INVOLVED WITH FAHN,
KARLA AGREED TO STAY CLEAR OF BELD.

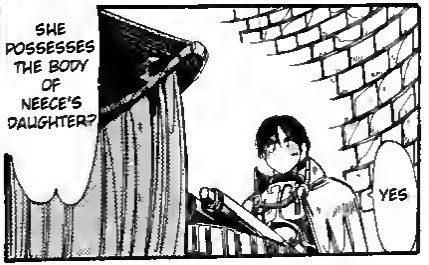

KARLA HAS DONE EVERYTHING SHE PLANNED I DOUBT SHE WILL DO ANYTHING MORE...


.. AND THERE'S NO MENTION OF YOU IN THE PACT, SO...
I GUESS I CAN HELP YOU.
HOW-EVER
IT COULD BE QUITE DANGER-OUS.


IT IS NOT KNOWN TO ANY-ONE...
WHICH SIDE IS DESTINED.
TO ANNIHILATE THE OTHER.

SO THE SILENT WARRIOR SORCERER WAS KARLA. UNBELIEVABLE


AND YOU SAY


SHE POSSESSES THE BODY OF NEECE'S DAUGHTER?
YES

ISN'T THERE ANY WAY WE CAN SAVE THE GIRL?
YES, THERE IS.
BUT IF THE METHOD FAILS,
KARLA MAY BE THE ONE WHO'S LEFT ALIVE
?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
ACCORDING TO THE GREAT SAGE...

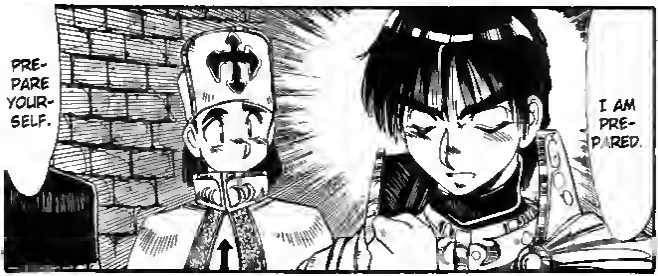
THE SORCERY KARLA USES TO TAKE POSSESSION OF A BODY IS MOST POWERFUL WHEN THE PERSON DIES.
LET'S SAY...
I'M KARLA, FOR EXAMPLE.
AND I'VE BEEN KILLED BY SLAYN.
AT THAT MOMENT, I WOULD TAKE POSSESSION...
..OF SLAYN'S SPIRIT.
YOU MEAN SHE TAKES POSSESSION OF A PERSON WHO'S STRONGER THAN THE PERSON SHE CURRENTLY POSSESSES?
THAT'S RIGHT.

THAT MEANS IF WE STRIKE THE FIRST BLOW CARELESSLY, KARLA COULD TAKE POSSESSION OF US?
WHAT A NUISANCE THIS SORCERY IS.
SO ..WE HAVE TO REMOVE THE CIRCLET FROM HER FOREHEAD...
WITHOUT DESTROYING THE PERSON SHE POSSESSES.
SO WE MUST CAPTURE HER ALIVE.
BUT IS IT POSSIBLE?
I THINK YOU KNOW THE WITCH'S POWER BEST SINCE YOU HAVE ALREADY FOUGHT HER.
I GOT THIS WEAPON FROM WORT THAT WILL NEUTRALIZE HER POWER.

A WAND?
IT'S QUITE OLD.
HE SAID THAT THE ROWLA SPELL WOULD DISPEL HER MAGIC POWERS.
AND THEN WHAT HAPPENS?
WELL...
ALL MAGIC POWER AROUND US WILL BE NEUTRALIZED.
I SEE. SO IF HER POWER IS NEUTRALIZED, SHE WILL BE CAUGHT OFF GUARD
YES, BUT OUR POWER WILL ALSO BE NEUTRALIZED
I THINK YOU ARE PHYSICALLY STRONG ENOUGH TO HANDLE IT.

I JUST HOPE WE NEVER HAVE TO FACE OFF WITH HER
I GUESS THERE'S NOTHING LEFT TO DO BUT FIGHT.
ONLY KASHLI'S SOLDIERS SURVIVED...
AND TOGETHER WITH OUR VALISIAN SOLDIERS...
WE BARELY HAVE ENOUGH MEN—
TO FIGHT MARMO
PARN!
YES, SIR.
YES IT IS.
IS IT THAT SERIOUS?
THE ALLIED FORCES OF VALIS, FLAIM, ALLANIA AND MOSS HAVE BEEN COMPLETELY DESTROYED.

THIS WILL BE YOUR FIRST BATTLE AS A HOLY KNIGHT.
AND IT WILL BE A BIG BATTLE!!


PREPARE YOURSELF.
I AM PREPARED.

YOU HAD BETTER NOT BE PREPARING TO DIE.
HUH?
IT'S BETTER TO CONCENTRATE ON STAYING ALIVE...
THAN ON BEATING THE ENEMY.

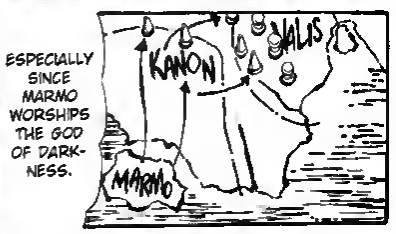
IF YOU DO, THINGS WILL WORK OUT.
UH... YES, SIR!!
KING FAHN.
YES?
I'M SURE HE IS USED TO FIGHTING IN THE DESERT LIKE US...
pat
I HEAR HE WAS ONCE A FIGHTER IN FLAAM.
WON'T YOU ENTRUST PARN TO ME?
UHHH...
GOOD THINKING. YOU MAY BE RIGHT. WHAT DO YOU THINK, PARN?
AND IT WOULD BE BETTER FOR HIM THAN FIGHTING ON HORSE-BACK.

AS YOU WISH.

YOUR MAJESTY!
GOOD LUCK, PARN.
WHAT IS IT, ETOH?

MAY I, AS A PHARIS PRIEST, PARTICIPATE IN THIS WAR?
IF POSSIBLE, I WOULD LIKE TO FIGHT ALONGSIDE PARN.

I AM GREATLY PLEASED BY YOUR OFFER! THE HIGH PRIEST, GENARDO, DECLARED THAT THIS WILL BE A WAR BETWEEN PHARIS, THE GOD OF LIGHT, AND PHALARIS, THE GOD OF DARKNESS. MANY PRIEST WILL BE BROUGHT INTO BATTLE.


ESPECIALLY SINCE MARMO WORSHIPS THE GOD OF DARKNESS.
KANON
MARMO

IT SEEMS I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO GO AS WELL.
IT'S NOT THAT I WANT TO FIGHT, BUT I WOULD LIKE TO HELP PARN AND KING KASHU.
I HAVE SOME-THING TO ASK YOU, SLAYN
YES?
I WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO BECOME PALACE SORCERER OF FLAIM.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
I WOULD LIKE TO ACCEPT YOUR OFFER WITH PLEASURE,
BUT...
KARLA?
YES.
BECAUSE OF HER AGREE-MENT WITH WORT,
I DO NOT THINK SHE WILL APPEAR ON THE BATTLE-FIELD

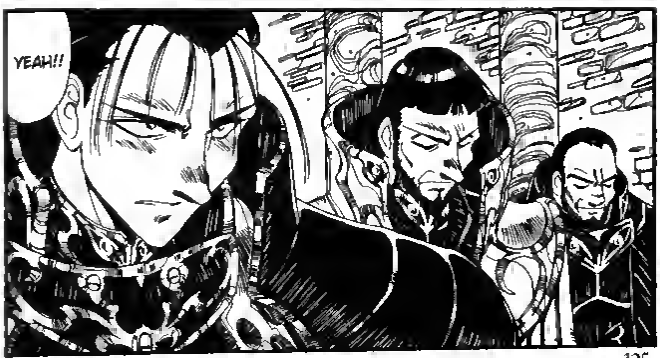
BUT WORT INFORMED ME OF THE LOCATION OF HER HIDEOUT.
NOW THAT I KNOW, I MUST GO THERE.
TO OBLIGE AN OLD FRIEND.
PFFF
LEYLIA, I PROMISE TO BRING YOU BACK TO YOUR MOTHER, NEECE

SO THE WAR WAS STARTED...
BEFORE THAT, THERE'S SOMETHING I HAVE TO DO
BY A WOMAN WHO ISN'T EVEN ALIVE

THE TROOPS ARE ENTERING VALIS.
AND APPROACHING EASTERN ROID
THE VALISIAN ARMY IS PREPARED TO FIGHT.
CLANG!

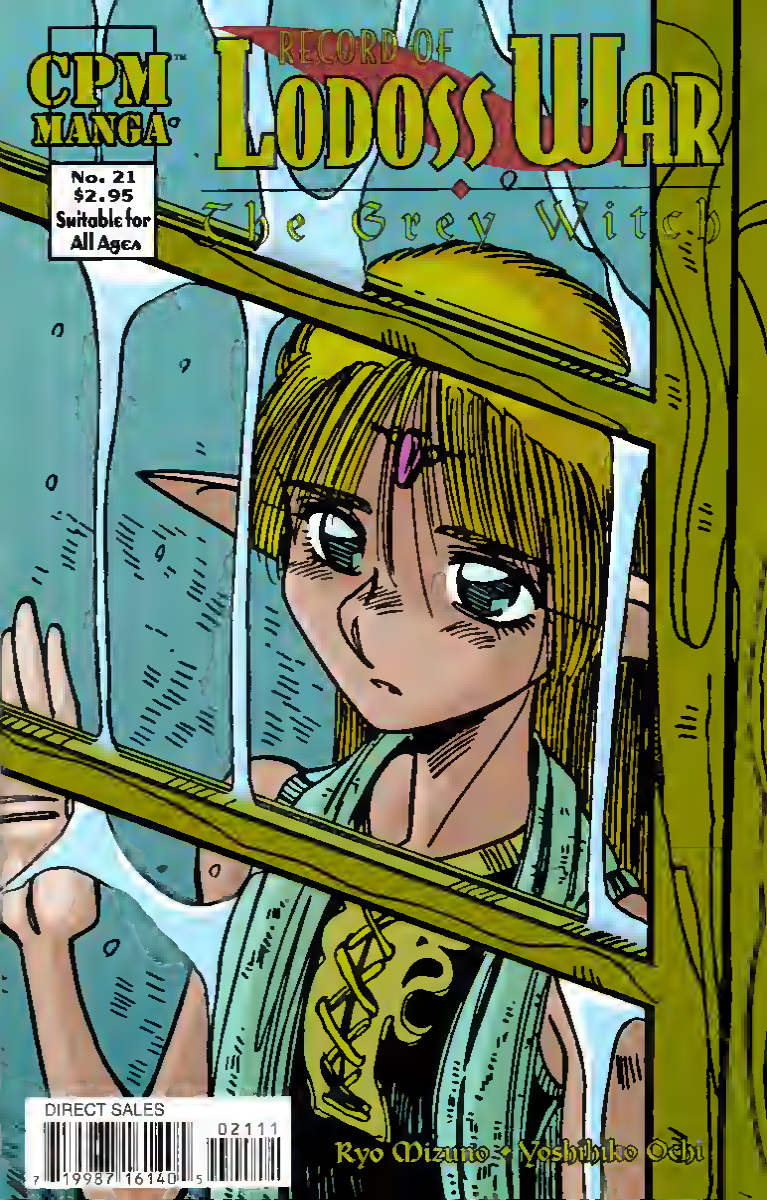
THE TIME HAS COME!
PREPARE FOR AN ALL-OUT INVASION!!

WE SHALL TAKE VALIS!!


YEAH!!

DO NOT PERMIT MARMO TO ADVANCE!! THIS BATTLE WILL DETERMINE THE FATE OF LODOSS!!
GHIM. WHY YOU?
YOU KNOW IF YOU DIE HERE, LEYLIA...
CAN'T BE SAVED!
DEED, DON'T SEPARATE FROM ME!!
NOT A CHANCE!
SPIRIT OF THE WIND, OH SYLPH THE GREAT...
I WON'T..
LET YOU DIE!!
THROUGH THESE ARROWS, OPEN A GATE.

To Be Continued...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KING KASHU!!
PARN, HAVE YOU SEEN ANY DARK ELVES?
NO, I HAVEN'T!!

DARK ELVES ARE IMMUNE TO SORCERY
SO THIS..
..MUST BE A DIVER-SION
THE WARRIOR SORCERERS ARE FIGHTING ELM'S TROOPS.

WE HAVE TO HURRY AND FINISH UP HERE SO WE CAN GO HELP THEM.
EVERYONE FOLLOW ME! EVEN YOU FOOT SOLDIERS! CHARGE!!

CHARGE

OH GREAT SPIRIT OF DEEPEST SLEEP. ABOVE THESE VILLAINS PERMIT US TO LEAP!
KLUNK
SLEEPING SORCERY!
YES
THIS IS MUCH BETTER THAN A GAUDY SHOW OF ARMS

FIRE-BREATHING SALA-MANDERS!! BE CAREFUL!!
WWFFF
OH MY GOD! I'VE BEEN HOLDING OFF USING MY MOST POWERFUL SORCERY, BUT HERE GOES..
DON'T THEY CARE ABOUT THEIR SOLDIERS?
OH GREAT MANA, RESIDE WITHIN THESE SWORDS THAT CALL. PERMIT THEM NOW TO SEVER ALL!!

WHAT'S THIS!? SLAYN!!
LET'S DO IT!!
HAAAH!

THUD
HISSS!
UGH!!

PARN!!
SORCERY'S WELLSPRING, OH MANA THE GREAT, BE THOU A SHIELD TILL THIS FIRE ABATES
WWOPHHH
PHEW. THAT WAS CLOSE..
CASTING ONE SPELL AFTER ANOTHER IS EXHAUSTING.
I'M GOING TO CAST THE RECOVERY SPELL. STAND STILL.
THAT WAS SOME DIVERSION. I WONDER IF ELM IS ALRIGHT.
NOW FOR THE REAL ENEMY

DARK ELF...
Y... YOU ..
OH, GREAT MANA...
CAST UPON ME HELL'S FIERY LASHES... AND WITH THIS DEMON COMMIT ME...

TO ASHES!!
WE ARE...
FIN-ISHED HERE.
TIME TO JOIN EMPEROR BELD'S FORCES.
LET'S GO!
YES, SIR!!

I WONDER HOW MANY TIMES...
...I'LL BE SPLATTERED IN BLOOD BEFORE THIS IS OVER.
SPLAT

...THAT SPILLS ON ANOTHER.
OR MAYBE NEXT TIME IT WILL BE MY BLOOD...
NOTHING...
NO VICTORY ..NO DEFEAT.
IF WE DON'T SURVIVE THIS.. NOTHING WILL HAPPEN.
LOOK...

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE EVIL WAS BANISHED.
HASN'T IT, FAHN?
SO IT HAS
STAY BACK, ASHULUM.
YES, SIR
KASHU...

STAY OUT OF THIS!!

YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT!!
I'VE BEEN WANTING TO FIGHT WITH YOU FOR AGES.
BUT BELD...
DO YOU THINK...
THIS IS WHAT FLAUS WOULD HAVE WANTED!?
WWSSHH!

CLANK
CLANK
KING FAHN!!
CLINK
CLANK
SHIP
WE CAN'T MEDDLE IN THIS.
KING KASHU.

YOU'LL NEVER SUCCEED, FAHN!
EVEN IF YOU TAKE A HUNDRED YEARS.
UNLESS YOU SUPPRESS THE PEOPLE, DREDGE THE FESTERING WOUNDS AND BURN THEM ALL.
CLAY
LODOSS WILL NEVER BE UNITED!!

YOU...
YOUR SOLUTION OF FORCE...
..HAS CREATED NOTHING BUT A LEGACY OF WAR.
I INTEND TO CHANGE THE COURSE OF HISTORY!!
AND I WILL!!

CLANK

SWIP
THUD!
YOUR MAJESTY!!
CLANK!
!

THIS IS THE MOMENT OF TRUTH.
GRR
I, KING KASHU OF FLAIM,
CHALLENGE YOU!!
FINE! TIME TO ELIMINATE FLAIM.
THIS SHOULD BE EASY!!

!
HYAAAH
YOUR MAJESTY!!

FLAUS ...THIS IS THE END...
...OF THE EMPEROR...
WHO TRIED TO UNITE LODOSS.
KA-BOOM!

LODOSS
NEED NOT BE UNITED...
THUMP!
SHIP

HOW COWARDLY OF YOU....
WHAT!?
RELAX, PARN!!
TO SHOOT AN ARROW LIKE THAT, KING OF THE DESERT...
CAAG

NO MATTER WHO SHOT THAT ARROW...
WHAT WE WITNESSED HERE CANNOT BE REVERSED.
JAB
WITH THIS SWORD...
I SHALL AVENGE BELD'S DEATH MARK MY WORDS...
THIS ISLAND OF LODOSS SHALL BE RULED BY MARMO!

FOR WHAT DID MAN AND BEAST
.. GIVE THEIR LIVES?
WHAT WAS THE PURPOSE OF THIS BATTLE?
WHAT ARE WE DOING HERE?
KARLA MUST BE HAPPY WITH THE OUTCOME

NOW THAT THE TWO GREAT POWERS WHICH HAVE SUPPORTED LODOSS SINCE THE END OF THE WAR AGAINST EVIL ARE GONE...
I KNOW WHAT WE HAVE TO DO NEXT!
THAT WITCH WHO MEDDLES WITH PEOPLE'S FATE...
...WILL NOT GET AWAY WITH THIS!!

KAPOW!
SNG!

COME TO ME.
I WILL NOT RUN NOR HIDE.

To Be Continued...

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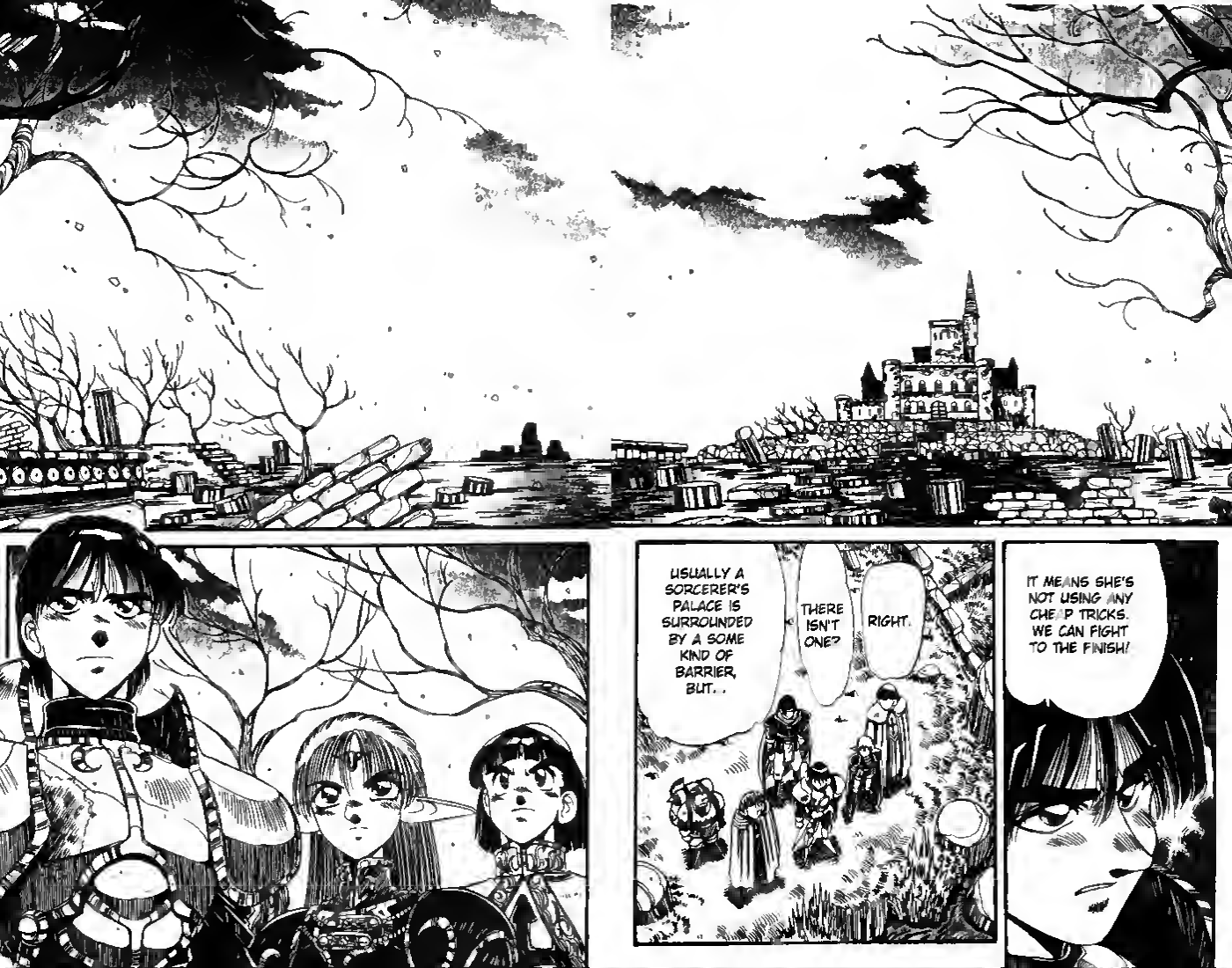
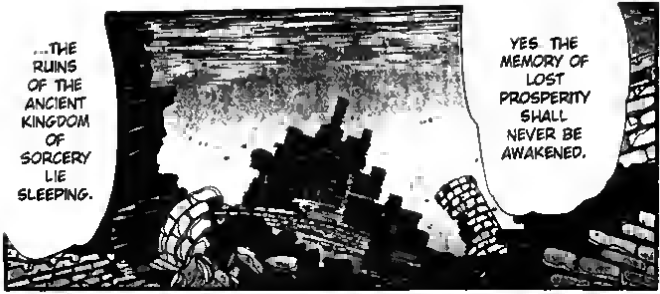
CLANG
BUT ONE O' THESE DAYS I KIN HELP YA
I COULDN'T HELP YA FIGHT...
WOOD.
!!


USUALLY A SORCERER'S PALACE IS SURROUNDED BY A SOME KIND OF BARRIER, BUT...
THERE ISN'T ONE?
RIGHT.
IT MEANS SHE'S NOT USING ANY CHEAP TRICKS. WE CAN FIGHT TO THE FINISH!

BAM
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU.
KARLA!!
DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS PLACE, LAKE LUNOANA?
THEY SAY AT THE BOTTOM OF LAKE LUNOANA...


...THE RUINS OF THE ANCIENT KINGDOM OF SORCERY LIE SLEEPING.
YES THE MEMORY OF LOST PROSPERITY SHALL NEVER BE AWAKENED.

THE RECOLLECTION OF DEATH AND DESTRUCTION THAT MUST NEVER BE REPEATED REMAINS ASLEEP.

IS THAT WHAT YOU THINK?
YOU HAVE MEMORIES OF THE ANCIENT KINGDOM OF SORCERY.

YOU COULD HAVE AWAKENED THEM.
THOSE MEMORIES COULD HAVE BEEN VERY USEFUL IF YOU WOULD HAVE HANDED THEM DOWN.
TAK
TAK

PEOPLE WITH DESIRES...
..CAN-NOT BE SAGES.
YOUNG SOR-CERER...
I HAVE SURVIVED BY NOT APPEARING ON THE STAGE
BUT YOU DIDN'T.
WHY DIDN'T YOU!?
SLASH!
EVEN SO, THAT CAN'T BE YOUR REASON FOR USING US AS PAWNS IN YOUR GAME!!
NOT EVERYONE CAN BE A SAGE!

ALRIGHT THEN
LET'S SETTLE THIS.
I KNOW WHAT I GOTTA DO.
WE NEED YOUR HELP.
CREAK
I GOTTA STEAL KARLA.
WOOD.

LET'S GO!!
OH GREAT MANA, SOURCE OF ALL MAGIC, TAKE THOSE THAT HINDER MY FORWARD STEP, BREATHE UPON THEM YOUR FIERY FLASHES
REDUCE THEM NOW...
KOW
...TO HEAPS OF ASHES.

POUF!
POUF!
ROWLA!!
FLICK!
POUF
FLICK!
WHAT!?

HOW DID HE DO THAT?
HE'S NEUTRALIZING MY POWER!!
SPLIT AT THE SEAM.
ALMIGHTY MANA, SOURCE OF ALL MAGIC, CONTROLLER SUPREME..
HYAAAAHH!!
UGH!!
MAKE THIS STRANGE POWER...

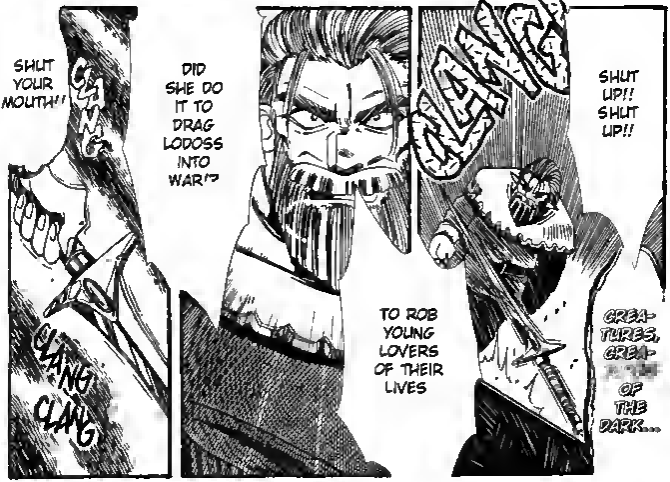
CLINK
PARN!!
KARLA BROKE THE NEUTRAL-IZING SPELL!!
CLANG
!
AL-MIGHTY MANA...
DAMN!

BUILD A BARRIER THICK AND TALL..
FROM ALL SWORDS A DEFENDING WALL.
CLINK!
CLANK
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, LEYLIA!!?
!
DON'T YOU REMEMBER..
...WHAT NEECE TAUGHT YOU!?
TAK

HEY, YOU'RE UN-ARMED!!
tak
DO YOU KNOW THE GIRL?
SORRY, BUT SHE IS NO LONGER CONSCIOUS.
WAKE UP, LEYLIA. REMEMBER THE LAWS OF THE LAND YOU BELIEVE N...
...AND THE LOVE YOU HAVE FOR ALL LIVING THINGS.
REMEMBER THE TEACHINGS OF MARFA THAT SHOWED YOU HOW TO BE FREE FROM AFFEC-TATION!!
GHIM!!
I'M TELLING YOU IT'S NO USE.
EVEN HER NAME DOESN'T EXIST ANY-MORE.

GHUM!? THAT DWARF?
DAMN!! THE GIRL WASN'T SUPPOSED TO HAVE ANY MEMORY.

LEYLIA! WHAT WAS THE PURPOSE OF MARFA'S TEACHINGS!?
CLANG
WHY DID SHE WATCH OVER YOUNG PEOPLE IN LOVE AND ACT AS THE PROTECTRESS OF MARRIAGE?


SHUT YOUR MOUTH!!
CLANG
CLANG CLANG
DID SHE DO IT TO DRAG LODOSS INTO WAR!?
TO ROB YOUNG LOVERS OF THEIR LIVES
CLANG
SHUT UP!! SHUT UP!!
CREATURES, CREA- OF THE DARK...

DEVOURING THE SPIRITS' SPARK....
OPEN YOUR EYES, LEYLIA!!
WAVE THINE SCYTHE...
STOP!!
WITHIN YOUR HAND... ANNIHI-LATE...
DON'T STAIN THESE HANDS...
KLANG!!
...WITH BLOOD ANY LONGER!!
...ALL LIFE ON LAND!

TINK
GHIM!?
UH...
G— GHIM ..

NO!!
NO!
GOOOOO!!
SNAP
SNAP

ETOH--
HOW'S GHIM...
HE'S FADING...
!
CLANG

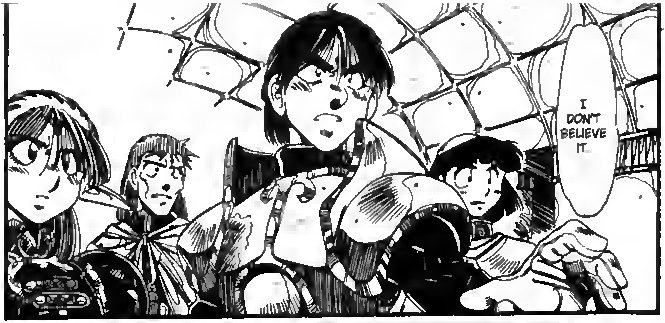
CLANG
SHHH
DEED... STOP!!
IT WAS KARLA.
...WHO TOOK GHIM'S LIFE!
NOT LEYLIA...
I KNOW.
I KNOW!!

WOOD...
CLANG
BREAK THE CIRCLET...
...AND THAT WILL BE THE END OF HER.
SORRY, BUT...
I AIN'T GONNA DO THAT.

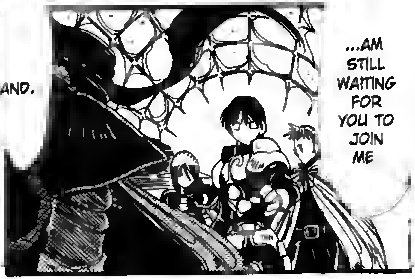
WOOD...
Clunk
...AIN'T FROM A FAMILY O' KNIGHTS LIKE YOU PARN.
I...
I...
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, WOOD?
...NO FAITH IN GOD.
AND I AIN'T GOT...
I ALWAYS BEEN A THIEF. .
AND I AIN'T SMART 'NOUGH TO UNDERSTAN' SORCERY...

PARN, WHEN I WAS 'BOUT YER AGE...
I GOT THROWED IN JAIL FOR A MAKIN' A MISTAKE
WOOD... GIVE ME THE CIRCLET.
CLAWG
TWENTY YEARS...
TWENTY YEARS IN THE SLAMMER
THERE WEREN'T NOTHIN' TO DO IN THERE BUT SURVIVE
HAND KARLA OVER TO ME!!
I'M GONNA GET ME BACK THEM TWENTY YEARS WITH THIS!!

THERE'S NO WAY ANY OF US CAN CONTROL KARLA'S POWER.
IT WILL BE KARLA WHO CONTROLS YOUR BODY AND YOUR MIND!!
MAYBE... MAYBE NOT.
SHIP
I AIN'T GONNA KNOW IF I DON' TRY.
ARE YOU CRAZY!!?
WOOD, STOP!!
CLAMP


I DON'T BELIEVE IT.

I AM...
FOND OF ALL OF YOU...


AND.
...AM STILL WAITING FOR YOU TO JOIN ME

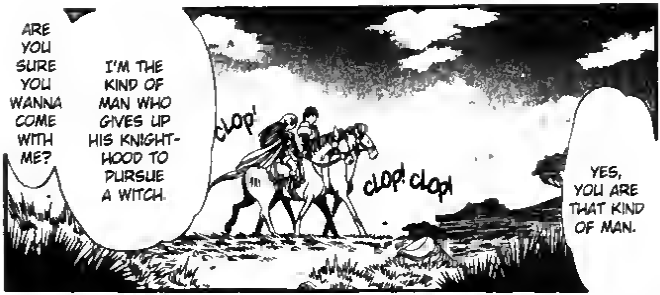
SEE YOU SOON.

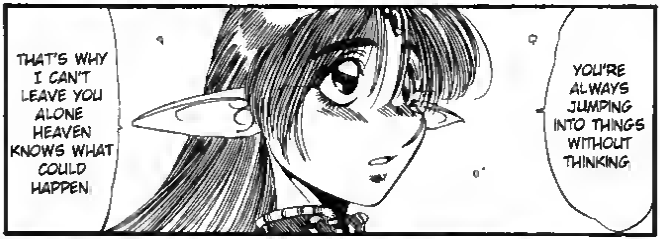
SHATTER
TMP

ROID, CAPITAL OF VALIS
I HAVE JUST RETURNED, PRINCESS FIANNA.
THANK YOU.
THIS WAY.
THE PRIEST, ETOH, HAS RETURNED...
ETOH.
YES.

YOU HAVE COME BACK SAFELY, AS YOU PROMISED.
YES.
VALIS IS STILL IN NEED OF THE GRACE OF PHARIS. IF I CAN BE.
...OF SERVICE TO YOU, PLEASE...
THANK YOU..
ETOH, WHAT HAPPENED TO THE OTHERS?
I DON'T SEE THEM.
THEY ALL HAVE THEIR OWN...
BGM (BACKGROUND MUSIC) "MIRACLE OCEAN"

...MISSIONS TO ACCOMPLISH, AND HAVE CONTINUED ON THEIR JOURNEYS SLAYN IS BRINGING THE GIRL WHO WAS RELEASED FROM KARLA'S SPELL BACK TO HER MOTHER.
AND PARN
CLANG


ARE YOU SURE YOU WANNA COME WITH ME?
I'M THE KIND OF MAN WHO GIVES UP HIS KNIGHT-HOOD TO PURSUE A WITCH.
clop!
clop! clop!
YES, YOU ARE THAT KIND OF MAN.


THAT'S WHY I CAN'T LEAVE YOU ALONE HEAVEN KNOWS WHAT COULD HAPPEN.
YOU'RE ALWAYS JUMPING INTO THINGS WITHOUT THINKING.

I GUESS I'LL NEVER BE LIKE THE HEROES THE POETS WROTE ABOUT.

CLOP!
CLOP

PEOPLE WILL ALWAYS TALK OF YOUR COURAGE...
EVEN IF YOU'RE NOT SUNG ABOUT IN POEMS.. AND YOUR NAME ISN'T ETCHED IN THE HISTORY OF LODOSS..
THAT'S NOT TRUE
JUST LIKE YOUR FATHER'S COURAGE WHICH THE HOLY KNIGHTS STILL SPEAK OF TODAY.

The End